

ing upon his bed in my carriage, gazing upon the scene before us, many things of the future concerning the valley were shown to him in a vision."

Then the Mormon leader made the statement which has since become famous: "This is the place! Drive on."



PIONEER MONUMENT,  
EMIGRATION CANYON

After viewing the scene before them, the party members moved down into the valley to where Orson Pratt and company had plowed five acres of ground. Brigham Young immediately told Pratt that he had selected the right spot upon which to build their city. On July 28, only four days after his arrival in Utah, the Mormon leader wrote:

"Some of the brethren talked about exploring the country farther for a site for a settlement. I replied that I was willing that the country should be explored until all were satisfied, but every time a party went out and returned, I be-

lieved firmly, they would agree this is the spot for us to locate."<sup>2</sup>

#### SOME DISSATISFACTION

Although Brigham Young and the leaders were satisfied that they had selected the right place, the first view of the Great Salt Lake Valley did not appear inviting to some of the exiled Saints. Their first impressions of Utah, Lorenzo Young, one of the pioneers, says, "were most disheartening. But for the two or three cottonwood trees, not a green thing was in sight. . . . The ground

<sup>1</sup> Wilford Woodruff, *Journal*, July 24, 1847, cited in Andrew Jensen, *The Historical Record*, IX, 77.

<sup>2</sup> *Latter-day Saint Journal History*, July 28, 1847, Ms.